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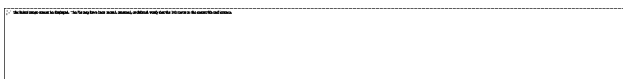
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**on behalf of** EPAResearchCompass [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=C1E8F11508674C3C954553A1129D33E5-EPARESEARCH]  
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**Subject:** EPA Research Compass: January 9, 2014



*Bi-weekly Update for 1/9/2014*

The Research Compass is your gateway to information about recent and upcoming ORD activities. If you have ideas for the Research Compass, please send them to EPA Research Compass. To see each full article on ORD@work, please click on the text that is hyperlinked.



- Read the latest on the blog:
- Check out the newest Scientist@Work profile: Marisa Mazzotta
- There's a new issue of Science Matters all about Ecosystems!
- Your NERL Quarterly Update is here!
- Read HHRA's Monthly Update!
- What's happening at NHEERL's Western Ecology Division?
- Tribal training must be completed by all EPA employees (including contractors and SEE personnel) by **January 15**.
- **January 15** is also the last day to make donations to CFC! (click here for DC and local campaigns around the US)
- EZ Email Records Training required for all EPA employees, contractors and SEEs by **January 23**.
- Did you read about your colleagues that were featured in Faces of ORD: 2013 Yearbook?
- Are you familiar with the Early Out/Buy Out plans? Here are some Q & As.
- Last but not least, upcoming webinars:

- CSS Webinar: Weds. January 15 11:00am - 12:30pm EST
- EPA's Computational Toxicology Communities of Practice Webinar: Thurs. January 23 11:00am - 12:00pm EST
- OSIM Webinar on Scientific Data Management: Thurs. January 23 11:30 am EST

## Faces of ORD features: NERL's Jeanette Van Emon



### Happy New Year!

Lek sent a memo on January 8th to reflect on and celebrate the impact ORD's research and science has had on our country in 2013. He highlighted the iCSS Dashboard, the National Stormwater Calculator, the 15th anniversary of the EPA/NIEHS Children's Centers, enhancements to the IRIS program, the Village Green Project, and the Bio-Response Operational Testing and Evaluation demonstration project. As we accomplished our goals this year, more people became aware of the great work we do. To date, we have over 41,000 followers on twitter, one of the strongest followings in the Agency! Additionally, over 56,000 people read our *It All Starts with Science* blog in 2013, and over 115,000 people read the online version of the *Science Matters* newsletter. Check out the Year in Pictures and the 2013 Faces of ORD yearbook. You will see much of your work and many of your colleagues and friends highlighted.

### ORD Honor Awards Ceremony Rescheduled for January 23 from 1-3 pm EST

Congratulations to all ORD Honor Award recipients! All ORD employees will have the opportunity to participate in the ceremony via a live broadcast on IPTV. Employees may also choose to attend smaller gatherings held in RTP, Chapel Hill, DC, Potomac Yard, Cincinnati, Las Vegas, Corvallis, Newport, Duluth, Grosse Ile, Gulf Breeze, Narragansett, Athens, Ada, and Edison to congratulate and honor individuals at their work location. If you work at one of these locations, you are encouraged to attend the ceremony in person and to register.

### President Obama Honors Outstanding Early Career EPA Scientist

On December 23rd, President Obama named NERL's Dr. Steven Thomas Purucker one of 102 recipients of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers. This is the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government on science and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers. Dr. Purucker works in the Ecosystems Research Division of NERL. The winners will receive their awards at a Washington, DC, ceremony in the coming year. Congrats, Dr. Purucker!

### MLK Day Activities: Day of Service/National Wildlife Refuges Free Free Day

If you're looking for a way to spend Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, consider honoring Dr. King's legacy through a day of service. The MLK Day of Service is a way to transform Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s life and teachings into community action that helps solve social problems. To find projects in your area, visit this site and fill in your zip code. Alternatively, you can visit one of America's National Wildlife Refuges for free! National Wildlife Refuges will offer free admission on January 20th, as well as the following holidays in 2014:

- February 15-17: Presidents' Day weekend
- September 27: National Public Lands Day

- October 12: The first day of National Wildlife Refuge Week
- November 11: Veterans Day

There's at least one national wildlife refuge in every state, and one within an hour's drive of most major metropolitan areas. Find one close to you [here](#).

### New Charges for Helpdesk Service Affecting ORD Budget

EZ Tech now charges us \$43.93 for every direct phone call to the EZ Tech help desk. To avoid this charge completely, PLEASE use email to request any assistance from EZ Tech IT support (EZTech@EPA.gov) or select Option #3 for EZ Tech when you call the EPA Call Center, 1-866-411-4EPA (4372).

Additionally:

- Consider turning in your EPA BlackBerry and remote access token if you really don't need them.
- Instead of using and maintaining a personal printer, turn it in and use a nearby network printer.
- When you print, always print on both sides of the paper (shown as "duplex" in the options area on some printers).
- Make a greater effort to keep track of passwords. Password and account resets can be costly.
- Take required training by the deadlines to avoid account lockouts, time lost, and account restarts.
- Turn in old computers and other IT devices to your property custodial officer if you don't need them, so they can be reassigned or excessed. ORD spends money to keep track of all these items even when they just sit in a corner.

Let's all work together to reduce costs, be more green, and make ORD an even better environmental steward.

### Tina Bahadori Speaks at Nifty Fifty Event at DC School

Tina Bahadori, NPD of ORD's Chemical Safety and Sustainability program, spoke at Washington Latin, a public charter school in Washington, DC last month. During her talk, Tina shared the importance of EPA science with 6th graders from the school. She participated as one of the Nifty Fifty speakers, a program that is run by the USA Science & Engineering Festival. The Festival is the country's largest science festival and will be returning to DC this April!



### Mouse Lung Tumor Workshop in RTP, January 7-8

Earlier this week, ORD held a State-of-the-Science Workshop on Chemically-induced Mouse Lung Tumors: Applications to Human Health in RTP. Those at the workshop discussed the available data and interpretation of results from studies of mouse lung tumors following exposure to chemical agents and how tumors in mice might relate to human cancer risk. Several lines of research have investigated whether or not these types of lung tumors are relevant to tumor formation in humans or formed by a mode of action which is specific to mice. Panelists at the workshop included EPA researchers, industry experts, and members of the academic and research community. The workshop will inform the development of assessments for chemicals where mouse lung tumors are an issue (e.g., ethylbenzene, naphthalene, styrene).

### HSRP Launches New Water Security Test Bed

EPA works with water utilities to protect water supplies and clean up systems that become contaminated. Purposeful or inadvertent contamination can require cleaning large amounts of water and infrastructure. To help address science gaps, Agency researchers are developing the Water Security Test Bed (WSTB) at the Idaho National Lab (INL). The WSTB, which is unique in the U.S., will replicate a typical municipal drinking water system. Researchers are building the grid above ground for easy access during experiments, and to facilitate fast leak detection. Lab and pilot approaches to contamination and water treatment can be demonstrated at this test bed using agents that simulate toxic biological, chemical, or radioactive materials. Experimental treatments may include chlorination and flushing protocols, advanced oxidative processes, or emptying and fumigating pipes. The first test bed experiment will be conducted this year. Test bed research will be available to any collaborators.

### Hydraulic Fracturing Study Webinar on January 21

On January 21 at 2:30 PM EST, EPA is hosting a one hour webinar to share what subject-matter experts discussed at a technical round table held on December 9, 2013. The round table arose out of a series of technical workshops, which are part of the Agency's efforts to strengthen stakeholder outreach around its *Study of Hydraulic Fracturing and Its Potential Impact on Drinking Water Resources*. Registration is required for the webinar.








## Check out the new innovation website!

From open innovation challenges and P3 awards to Smart Growth and waste management, you can find creative solutions for environmental protection in all parts of EPA. Go see the new site, a showcase of innovative activities from across the Agency.

## Questions for the Record

The Senate Environment and Public Works (SEPW) Committee submitted over 50 questions to the Agency as follow-up to Dr. Thomas Burke's confirmation hearing. Dr. Burke will be working with EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations (OCIR) to answer the questions as quickly as possible.

Did you know that the "Windows" icon  on your keyboard gives you a lot of interesting options?

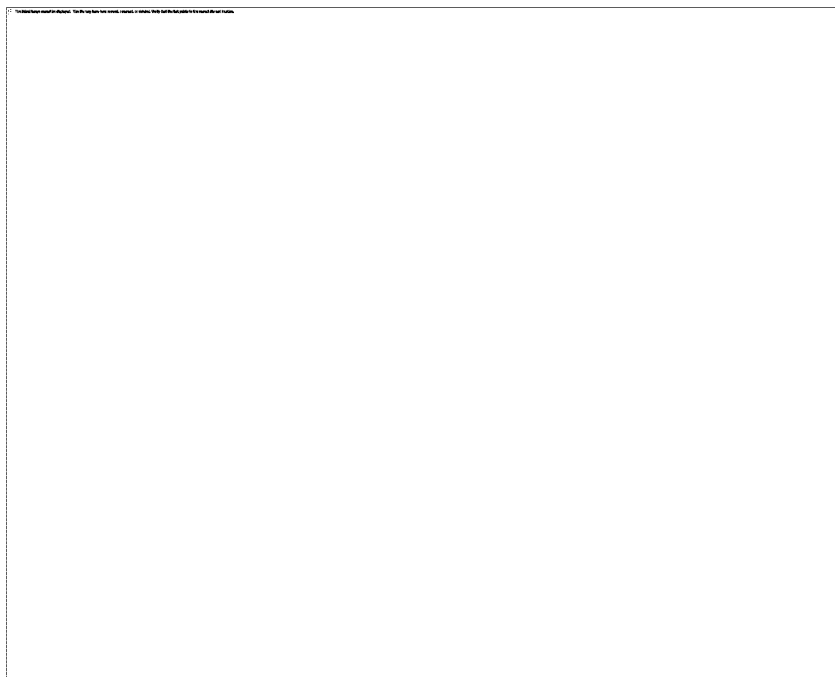
- Press  and "e" at the same time to see "My Computer"
- Press  and "x" at the same time to see the "Mobility Center"
- Press  and "d" at the same time to close your documents
- Press  and the up arrow at the same time to maximize your screen
- Press  and the down arrow at the same time to minimize your screen
- Press  and the right arrow at the same time to show your document on the right half of the screen
- Press  and the left arrow at the same time to show your document on the left half of the screen

## Nepotism - *Giving preferential treatment to relatives*

Nepotism, the practice of showing favoritism to relatives in the workplace, is prohibited at EPA. This policy is based on the statute, 5 U.S.C. § 3110, and certain additional requirements. You shall not appoint, employ, promote, advance, or advocate for the appointment, employment, promotion, or advancement of a relative in or to any civilian position in EPA in which you serve, or which you exercise jurisdiction or control. Any individual appointed, employed, promoted, or advanced in violation of the nepotism law is not entitled to pay. EPA policy also prohibits relatives from serving for the same first level supervisor or from allowing one relative to directly or indirectly control or influence the work of another relative. For more ethics information, check out the Ethics Guide for EPA Employees.

Each issue of the EPA Research Compass features one of ORD's outstanding employees. If you would like to nominate someone to be featured, please contact Maggie Sauerhage or Megan Maguire.

## NERL's Jeanette Van Emon



**Name: Jeanette Van Emon**

**Position:** Research Chemist

**L/C/O:** NERL's Human Exposure & Atmospheric Sciences Division

### 1. When did you start at EPA?

Can you guess? The year I started at EPA, Congress passed the Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act, forbidding ocean dumping of plastic materials; The Montreal Protocol, an international agreement to phase out ozone-depleting chemicals, was signed by the US; A Long Island garbage barge began a 6,000 mile journey from New York to Belize, making stops along the way to find a dumping place, highlighting the solid waste disposal crisis; and the Water Quality Act was passed, making substantial additions to the Clean Water Act. Also, Martina Navratilova defeated Steffi Graf at Wimbledon (7-5, 6-3).

### 2. What's the most interesting thing about your job?

Communicating my EPA research at scientific meetings, working with scientists from many different disciplines and organizations, and mentoring students.

### 3. What's the most interesting thing in your workspace?

A purple alien from Area 51 who now travels extensively as an ambassador for the American Chemical Society (ACS). Intergalactic memberships in the ACS have increased.

### 4. What's your favorite thing to do (besides come to work)?

Play competitive tennis – and win! A close second is watching classic movies with my son.

5. What's your favorite lunch spot?

Maggianno's at the Las Vegas Fashion Show Mall. However, I usually eat at the cleanest corner of my desk (Maggianno's delivers).

6. If you could have one superpower, what would it be?

Telepathy, to better win friends (and tennis matches), influence people, and follow the research dollars.

7. Do you have any New Year's resolutions?

I actually have a few resolutions:

1. Plan my excursion on the Orient Express from Paris to Istanbul.
2. Review organic chemistry reactions. I need to find where to buy the "lift-off magic slates" (these save a lot of paper).
3. Complete my plenary lecture for the San Francisco IUPAC/ACS meeting at least a week before the meeting and not the night before!